

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 312 OF 2024

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item in The New Indian Express, Chennai Edition dt: 17.12.2024, titled "Kerala's Medical waste dumped in Nellai Villages".

-VS-

The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Chennai and Ors.

----Respondent(s)

**ACTION TAKEN REPORT FILED BY SECRETARY, ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT/4TH RESPONDENT**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 24th December, 2024.

Dr. G. K. K. Kumaresan
24/12/24

M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN

Standing Counsel for State Government of Kerala - NGT(SZ) Chennai Bench

①

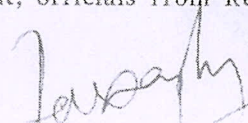
Report filed by the Secretary, Environment Department, Government of Kerala in OA No. 312/2024 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in the matter of illegal transportation and dumping of waste from the State of Kerala to State of Tamil Nadu.

It is respectfully submitted that the above matter on illegal waste dumping was SuoMotu registered by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal based on the reports published in daily, 'The New Indian Express', 'The Times of India' and in the vernacular dailies viz., 'The Hindu' and 'Dinamalar' dated 18.12.2024 in the matter of dumping of biomedical, food, plastics and other wastes brought from Kerala in Kodaganallur and Palavoor Villages, of Thirunelveli district in the State of Tamil Nadu. Subsequently the Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 19.12.2024, has directed the State of Kerala and the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to take strict action to remove the waste dumped within a period of 3 days from the date of the order and to file the action taken report.

In due compliance to the order dated 19/12/2024 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the State Government and Kerala State Pollution Control Board have taken all out efforts to remove the waste dumped at Tirunelveli within the stipulated time limit. The Local Self Government Department, Environment Department, District Administration and Kerala State Pollution Control Board have formulated a quick action plan, for removal of waste with the active participation of Clean Kerala Company under LSGD, under the supervision of Kerala State Pollution Control Board. The matter was communicated to the Tamil Nadu Government from the State of Kerala and has sought necessary help. The action taken is submitted as follows.

It is humbly submitted that as soon as the matter published in the dailies came to the notice of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, immediate action was initiated. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board was contacted on 18.12.2024 and Notices were issued on 18.12.2024 itself to the Regional Cancer Center, Thiruvananthapuram, Credence Hospital Pvt.Ltd., and the Leela Kovalam hotel, to show cause as to why actions including levying of Environmental Compensation shall not be initiated against the units. It is also humbly submitted that the Kerala State Pollution Control Board has issued Consent Revocation Intention Notice to the Regional Cancer Center, Thiruvananthapuram, Credence Hospital Pvt.Ltd., and the Leela Kovalam hotel. M/s Sunage Eco Systems Pvt. Ltd., Karumam, Thiruvananthapuram was identified by the Kerala State Pollution Control Board as the concerned collection agency for the Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, Credence Hospital Pvt.Ltd and the Leela Kovalam hotel, during the inspection held on 18.12.2024. Registration revocation intention notice was issued to the unit.

It is respectfully submitted that the Chief Secretary of Kerala convened urgent meeting with all relevant stakeholders on 19.12.2024 itself considering the seriousness of the case. As per the direction of the Government, officials from Kerala PCB, Corporation


Dr. Rathan U Kelkar IAS
Secretary
Environment Department

of Thiruvananthapuram and experts from IMAGE conducted a joint inspection at the sites at Thirunelveli on 20.12.2024 in order to assess the quantity of waste. The officials from Kerala were accompanied by RDO, Thirunelveli, Inspector, Suthamlli Police Station, Assistant Director, Panchayath, BDOs, VOs and TNPCB Officials. The joint team inspected 6 locations (Vadakku Ariyanayaki Puram, Vellarikkulam, Kodakkanalloor, Pazhavoor, Kondanagaram Panchayat and Bharathiyar Nagar) identified by the Tamil Nadu officials.

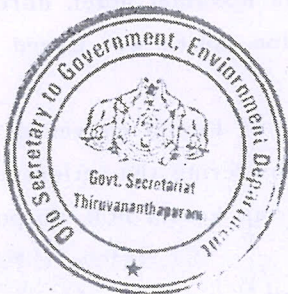
It is respectfully submitted that many meetings and discussions were taken on 20.12.2024 and 21.12.2024 with the stakeholders viz., the officials of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation, Suchitwa Mission, Clean Kerala Company Limited (CKCL), Local Administration, KSPCB and a work plan was prepared for removing the waste immediately and to ensure its safe and authorized disposal.

A team of 8 officers from KSPCB, officials from Clean Kerala Company Limited, Suchitwa Mission and 6 Health Inspectors along with the Sub Collector of Thiruvananthapuram and Health Officer of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation proceeded to Thirunelveli on 22.12.2024 with labourers and vehicles to execute the work plan. M/s. CKCL had supplied manpower and vehicles for transporting the waste back to Kerala. The entire team reached the respective sites in the morning of 22.12.2024 and started the work as per the work plan with the help of officials from Tamil Nadu. The work as per the work plan was almost completed by the evening of 22.12.2024. The waste dumped at different locations are now removed under the supervision of the officials from the Government of Kerala.

It is also submitted that the amount for expenditure incurred by the Government of Tamil Nadu towards the segregation and removal of waste, in the case of an earlier incident, which was mentioned in the order of the Hon'ble NGT dated 19.12.2024, has been reimbursed through Corporation of Thiruvananthapuram by way of cheque no.461926 dated 21.12.2024.

It is most respectfully submitted that in compliance with the order of Hon'ble Tribunal, the waste has been shifted from the State of Tamil Nadu. It is also submitted that the matter of illegal waste dumping is viewed very seriously and hence will be followed up scrupulously by the concerned authorities in the State Government. Instructions for strict monitoring is being issued to all concerned authorities in the State to avoid such mishaps in future.

It is respectfully prayed that the above action taken report of the State Government submitted herewith in due compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal may kindly be accepted.



[Handwritten Signature]
 Dr. Rathan U Kelkar IAS
 Secretary
 Environment Department
 Govt. Secretariat
 Thiruvananthapuram.

WORK PLAN FOR REMOVAL OF WASTES FROM SITES

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Location 1

LOCATION 1 : Vadakku Ariyan ayakipuram (Ilaithaikulam)

&

LOCATION 2: Velarkulam

Number of Torres lorry : 1

Number of helpers required : 5

Location 2

Location 3

Location 3 : Kodagan allur

Number of Torres lorry : 3

Number of helpers required : 5

Location 4 : Palavoor

Number of Torres lorry : 4

Number of helpers required : 10

Location 4

Location 5 : Kondanagar am

Number of Torres lorry : 3

Number of helpers required : 15

Location 5

Location 6 : Bharathiyar Nagar

Number of Torres lorry : 1

Number of helpers required : 5

Location 6



Detailed work plan

Locations	Places	Machinery Required	No. of workers needed
1	Ilaithaikulam, Hamlet Vadakku Ariyanayapuram Village Panchayat, Vadakku Ariyanayakupuram, Buried Place	1 Torus truck	5
2	Vellalankulam Panchayat, Vettuvankulam Habitation		

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Locations	Places	Machinery Required	No. of workers needed	Remarks
3	Nadukkallur, Kodukkanalloor Panchayat -LNC3 Dump 3-LCN3 Dump 2, LCN Dump 4	3 Torus truck	5	5 heaps
4	Pazhavor	4 Torus truck	10	Some quantity dumped in water logged area and waste to be taken first for drying
5	Kondanagaram Panchayat ,	3 Torus truck	15	More than 19 heaps More work force required
6	Bharatheeyar Nagar	1 Torus truck	5	

No. of trucks arranged : 16 nos

No of labours arranged: 30 nos

Time line for Execution

Date	Timeline	Place
22-12-2024	7 am	Assemble at Nanguneri
	8:30 am	Starting of work
	4:30 pm	Finishing of work
	8-9 pm	Chenkotta Border, Kollam
23-12-2024	5.30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Godown at Aluva (Karimaloor)• Godown at Kollam (Chandhanathoppu)• Godown at Palakkad two locations (Elapully , Kuzhalmannam)• Godown at Malappuram (Chelary)

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Team of Officers

Sl. No.	Department	No. of Officers	
1	Trivandrum Corporation	6 Health Inspectors+ 1 Health Officer	Supervision
2	Suchitwa Mission	1 Officer	Supervision
3	Kerala State Pollution Control Board	6 Officers	Supervision
4	Clean Kerala Company Ltd.	4 officers 2 Assistants 30 labours	Details shared in the Group

Stakeholders Involvement

- CKCL
- PCB
- TVM Corporation
- Suchitwa Mission
- Empanelled Agencies

Requirements from Tamil Nadu Government

Sl. No.				
1	8 JCBs	District Collector, Thirunelveli		
2	Police Assistance	District Collector, Thirunelveli		
3	Medical Assistance	District Collector, Thirunelveli		

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Requirements from Kerala Government

Requirements from Kerala Government

Sl. No.				
1		Food, Drinking Water to workers	Clean Kerala Company Limited	Suggested by PCB

Execution

1. Waste Collection

- Deploy JCBs, Vehicles and labours to collect waste from identified sites.

2. Transportation

- Use vehicles to transport waste to CKCL godowns

3. Disposal and Recycling

a. Processing Waste

- Recycle materials like plastics, glasses, metals, and paper. etc..
- Compost organic waste if feasible.
- Dispose of hazardous waste following environmental regulations.

b. Final Disposal

- Send recyclable to recyclers
- Send non-recyclable inert waste to co-processing
- Send bio medical waste to IMAGE/ KEIL.



List of officers attending from KSPCB

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Location/ Panchayat
1	Er. Sreetha A. M.	Assistant Environmental Engineer	
2	Er. Saritha S.	Assistant Environmental Engineer	
3	Er. Mohamed Zachariya A.	Assistant Engineer	Vadaku Ariyanayaki Puram and Vellarikkulam (1,2)
4	Dr. Renjith R. S.	Assistant Scientist	Kodukkanalloor (3)
5	Er. Rahul R.	Assistant Engineer	Pazhavoor (4)
6	Er. Nandhu H.	Assistant Engineer	Pazhavoor (4)
7	Er. Benoy A. V.	Assistant Engineer	Kondanagaram and Pazhavoor (5,6)

LIST OF TRIVANDRUM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICIALS			
SL.NO	NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT
1	Gopakumar R S	Health Officer	9895770777
2	Sreekanth K S	PHI I	9895299784
3	Shinu S Das	PHI I	7907482340
4	Kiran V G	PHI I	9895250069
5	Arunkumar A R	PHI II	9633344448
6	Pramod S V	PHI II	8921828356

Details of CKCL Officials

SL NO	NAME OF OFFICIAL	DESIGNATION	CONTACT NUMBER
1	ANIKUMAR	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	9447792058
2	PYARE LAL	NODAL OFFICER	9446551627
3	SREEJITH L K	PROJECT MANAGER	7558086677
4	KRISHNA SAMBATH	DISTRICT MANAGER	7558086688
5	BIVIN GOVIND	OFFICE ASSISTANT	8129512339

Details of Vehicles

SL no	VEHICLE NUMBER	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT NUMBER
1	KL 42U 0067	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
2	KL42U 9966	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
3	KL42W 6662	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
4	KL42W 6664	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
5	KL 46J 1886	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
6	KL55R9502	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
7	TN888698	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
8	TN52F8598	RISHAD NASSAR	9567250830
9	KL05AJ9868	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
10	KL41G7465	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
11	KL22H0665	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
12	KL07CA2858	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
13	KL27M2749	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
14	KL76E1774	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
15	KL34H5038	ABDUL KALAM	9744343353
16	TN34W7724	SWALIH	9495779628

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SL no	VEHICLE NUMBER	STARTING LOCATION
1	KL 42U 0067	Ernakulam
2	KL42U 9966	Ernakulam
3	KL42W 6662	Ernakulam
4	KL42W 6664	Ernakulam
5	KL 46J 1886	Ernakulam
6	KL55R9502	Thirunelveli
7	TN888698	Thirunelveli
8	TN52F8598	Kovilpatti
9	KL05AJ9868	Kollam
10	KL41G7465	Malappuram
11	KL22H0665	Malappuram
12	KL07CA2858	Palakkad
13	KL27M2749	Palakkad
14	KL76E1774	Ariyallur
15	KL34H5038	Kollam
16	TN34W7724	Thoothukudi

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